

**To: Connecticut Public Health Committee**

**Subject: SB 292 Bill to license Behavior Analysis practitioners**

**Date: February 28, 2016**

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of SB 292. This licensure is crucial to all consumers of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services in the state and will allow families more access to ABA as well as protect all consumers of ABA services.

I am a Board Certified Behavior Analyst living and working in Connecticut. I am also the parent of an adult child with Autism and know of the importance of Applied Behavior Analysis. It is the only proven effective empirically based treatment available.

Currently, there are 24 states with licensure, including the surrounding states of New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In Connecticut, there are 548 individuals certified as BCBA/Baca. This licensure will support third party reimbursement for behavior analytic services, which will, as stated above, allow more families to access needed ABA services.

The Executive Committee of the Connecticut Association of Behavior Analysis is in support of this bill, and support an exception be added to the bill that allows for direct line staff who work under a licensed Behavior Analyst or licensed Assistant Behavior Analyst.

Passage of this bill will provide a critical need that will ensure the protection of consumers and funders of ABA services.

Again, I wholeheartedly support this bill.

Regards,

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